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Count Witte's Letters Reveal Startling State Of Affairs in Russia

Herman Bernstein Makes Public for First Time Documents and Interviews With Powerful Statesman Which Throw a New and Interesting Light on Workings of Czar's Government.



Count Witte.

By HERMAN BERNSTEIN,
Editor of "The Day."

WITH the passing of Count Sergei Witte Russia has lost the most powerful statesman she has produced in the last half century. From a humble beginning he rose to the highest post in the empire despite the obstacles placed in his way by the Russian aristocracy, by the reactionary bureaucracy in power and by the court clique.

He advanced under the regime of one of the most autocratic of Russian Emperors, Alexander III; he introduced reforms in the Russian railway system, he helped perhaps more than any other man the development of the Russian industry, he saved the Russian Government on numerous occasions by securing loans at critical periods, he saved Russia from humiliation in the Russo-Japanese conflict and won for Russia at the Portsmouth peace conference what the Russian army and the Russian bureaucracy system lost at Port Arthur and Mukden, in Manchuria; he won for Russia the only victory in the Japanese war. Although reared amid surroundings alien to the ideas of constitutionalism and parliamentary forms of government, Count Witte, upon his return from America, practically ruling from the Czar the manifesto of October 17, 1905, granting Russia a constitution.

Witte had perhaps more enemies than any Russian statesman in recent years. While such men as Ploshchinskii and Gorkovskii were despised by the more advanced elements of the Russian people, they were admired and supported by the main factions and the dark forces of the empire for their reactionary tendencies and policies, which were designed to keep out the light of progress in Russia as long as possible. Witte was disliked by the revolutionists and he was also despised by the "conservatives." The revolutionists despised him and the reactionaries feared him.

It was too big a personality for the backward and the mediocrities constituting the circle of advisers. They felt uncomfortable in his presence, they were awed by his intelligence, his scientific intellect, his readiness to meet big problems, his inventiveness, his adaptability, his wit, his cunning and his energy.

At these meetings Count Witte discussed freely the state of affairs in Russia. He also expressed his views to me on many important questions in a series of letters I have received from him.

"There are two achievements in my life of which I am especially proud," he said to me one day in 1908 in his beautiful home on Kamennostrovsky Prospekt, "the Portsmouth peace treaty and the constitution of October 17, 1905. And I know that these are the very two things for which the Czar will never forgive me."

"There is a feeling among the ruling spheres that Russia would have defeated Japan and that it would have been possible to get better terms for Russia after the Russian victory. There is also an impression in the mind of the Czar that it was not necessary to go as far as granting a constitution to the Russian people. He believes that the extent of the uprising, the discontent and restlessness among the people at that critical stage was overestimated, and that I misrepresented to him the feeling of the people at the time in order to force him to grant a constitution and thus curtail the Emperor's powers."

"I have been brought up in environments to which constitutionalism was entirely foreign. I served under the most autocratic of recent Russian Emperors, Alexander III. I cannot say, therefore, that I love constitutionalism and parliamentary forms. Without it the Russian government was on the point of crumbling away. There are many people who cannot forgive me for having signed the Portsmouth peace treaty. But I am quite satisfied with these achievements of mine—the signing of the peace treaty and the operation by means of a constitution."

Wanted at that time for Russia was not a form of government such as France has today, but they wanted at one bound to establish in Russia the French republic of the future.

"But I understand that they were willing to cooperate with you," I remarked. "If I am correctly informed, the Constitutional Democratic leaders asked you to outline to them your programme before they could work with you. I understand that to this you replied that you wanted them to help you elaborate a programme. They said that the presence of the reactionary Durnovo in your cabinet was part of a programme."

"Yes, that is true," answered Count Witte. "I wanted their cooperation in order to offset just such influences as that of Durnovo. The Constitutional Democratic leaders should have known that I did not want Durnovo in the cabinet, that he was there because the Czar wanted him there, and that I hoped to be able to overcome his influence with the Czar with the aid of these reformers."

I shall never forget the dramatic statement that Count Witte made to me when I visited him a year later in St. Petersburg. The late Prime Minister of the Russian Empire rose from his writing table and walked over to the window of his study, overlooking Kamennostrovsky Prospekt, and said:

"You see the people on the opposite side of the street? I do not know whether they are merely members of the Union of Real Russians, the Black Hundreds, or whether they are stationed there by the secret police department. I am being watched constantly by the agents of Stoypin. You ask me about the assassination of Herzstein and Yelloy, the members of the Duma, and the attempt upon my life. I have in my possession all the documents showing how these assassinations and the plot against me were planned, organized and carried out. I have the details and the names of all the people implicated in this dastardly work."

Women's New Easter Pumps of the Edwin C. Burt Make Five Dollar Styles for \$3.65

ALL ARE SMART combination Pumps and five dollar values in every respect. Yet through placing our orders months ago, and giving the maker his own time to complete them, we can offer them now for \$3.65.

Eight different styles of Pumps are offered.

Patent calf pump with sand color cloth quarter, slashed instep strap finished with small buttons.

French bronze kidskin with bronze cloth quarters.

Patent calf pump with sand color cloth quarter, new "Comet" Pump style.

Patent calf pump with sand color cloth quarters, also in the "Comet" style.

Patent leather pump with sand color cloth quarters, also in the "Comet" style.

Patent leather pump, Oxford shape, with pearl gray cloth inlay top. Small lacing and midgelet eyelets in front.

Patent leather pump with small slashed strap and button.

Patent leather pump with black cloth quarters.

The majority are made with French heels and welted soles.

Main Floor, Elm Place.

50c. to \$1 Embroidered Flouncings, 29c. and 49c.

Importers' Surplus. 17 and 27 Inch Widths

THE EMBROIDERY STORE takes a part in the day's events, presenting a choice collection of fresh Embroidered Flouncings, at low prices, which should prompt women to secure quantities for summer wear.

Of fine quality Swiss and Cambric in a broad selection of attractive open-work patterns that are suggestive of charming summer frocks and linens.

17 and 27 inches wide, and good 50c. to \$1 values for 29c. and 49c. a yard.

Embroidery Store, Main Floor. None C. O. D.

\$2.75 to \$7.50 for Negligees, Value \$4 to \$10.50

ABOUT 175 FINE NEGLIGEEs, houseworn styles, beautifully made of crepe de chine in plain colors and stripes. Some have shawl collar, others with lingerie collars and finished with plaitings. Loose draped kimono styles are included and very effective models, in two various styles for description, perhaps only one of a kind.

Others of novelty materials, floral designs, fancy stripes and some of large flowered silks. Some Empire styles, many with elastic belts. Good colors, dark and medium shades, and in the crepe de chine some light colors and even white. Some have beautiful flowered designs. None C. O. D. No mail or telephone orders.

\$2 Silk Negligees, Values to \$4

Kimono Gowns of silk, navy and rose, with large flowered patterns, with satin borders. None C. O. D. No mail or telephone orders filed.

Negligee Gowns, \$1.50

Assorted patterns of fancy crepe, beautiful flowered designs. Simple, full kimono model with bands of satin. None C. O. D. No mail or telephone orders filed.

Second Floor, Livingston Street.

Anniversary Sale : : Record Values in Hosiery and Knit Underwear

TOMORROW'S SPECIAL OFFERINGS all through the Store are added to by the very extraordinary values in seasonable Underwear and smart or staple Hosiery.

All of standard qualities, all in ample variety of sizes, all at low prices which can probably not be equaled anywhere in the city.

Women's 12 1/2c. to 50c. Stockings—3 Pairs for 25c. to 3 Pairs for \$1

Women's 85c. to \$1.50 Silk Stockings at 60c. to \$1.10

Men's 12 1/2c. to 50c. Stockings—3 Pairs for 25c. to 3 Pairs for \$1

Men's 50c. to \$2.50 Silk Stockings at 35c. to \$1.10

Children's 12 1/2c. to 50c. Stockings—3 Pairs for 25c. to 3 Pairs for \$1

Women's 25c. to \$1 Combination Suits at 16c. to 65c.

Women's 10c. to 35c. Separate Garments at 6c. to 25c.

Boys' 25c. and 50c. Underwear at 19c. to 39c.

Men's \$1 to \$2.50 Combination Suits at 69c. to \$1.19

Men's 40c. to 75c. Separate Garments at 25c. to 49c.

Women's and Children's Underwear, Second Floor. All Other Advertised Goods, Main Floor.

Linen Hemstitched Huck Towels Our Regular 29c. Grade for 19c

THESE TOWELS are our own regular stock qualities and are usually marked at 29c.

Of a high grade, soft finish linen, neatly hemstitched. In handsome border patterns, including wreath and floral designs. All in useful sizes.

A wonder value for 19c. each. None C. O. D. No mail or telephone orders filed.

75c. Irish Table Linen, 59c. Yard

\$3 Linen Napkins, \$2.50 Dozen

\$3.75 Irish Linen Napkins, \$3 Dozen

\$1.75 Linen Napkins, \$1.50 Dozen

\$2.50 Pattern Table Cloths, \$2.25

Main Floor.

Sample Cut Glass Half Price Still Bargains From a 5th Avenue Showroom Recently Discontinued

EVERY PIECE—every pattern—every facet on this Cut Glass is the work of a master-hand. The cutting is sharp and clean—the polished wonderfully brilliant.

Quantities are small in some cases and we advise early attendance, some pieces only one of a kind. EVERYTHING AT HALF PRICE.

Bonbon Dishes.....	98c.	Celery Trays.....	\$1.00
Bonbon Dishes.....	\$1.25	Celery Trays.....	\$2.00
Bonbon Dishes.....	\$1.40	Mayonnaise Sets.....	\$1.00
Fruit or Salad Bowls.....	\$1.00	Mayonnaise Sets.....	\$2.00
Fruit or Salad Bowls.....	\$2.00	Mayonnaise Sets.....	\$3.00
Fruit or Salad Bowls.....	\$3.00	Handled Baskets.....	\$1.00
Fruit or Salad Bowls.....	\$4.00	Handled Baskets.....	\$2.00
Flower Vases.....	\$1.00	Handled Baskets.....	\$3.00
Flower Vases.....	\$2.00	Handled Baskets.....	\$4.00
Flower Vases.....	\$3.00	Handled Baskets.....	\$5.00
Water Pitchers.....	\$2.00	Vinegar and Oil Bottles.....	\$1.40
Water Pitchers.....	\$3.00	Water Sets.....	\$2.00
Nappies or low Bowls.....	\$2.00	Water Sets.....	\$3.00
Nappies or low Bowls.....	\$3.00	Water Sets.....	\$4.00
Nappies or low Bowls.....	\$4.00	Water Sets.....	\$5.00
Footed Comports.....	\$1.50	Spoon Trays.....	\$1.00
Footed Comports.....	\$2.00	Spoon Trays.....	\$2.00
Footed Comports.....	\$3.00	Spoon Trays.....	\$3.00
Footed Comports.....	\$4.00	Spoon Trays.....	\$4.00
Footed Comports.....	\$5.00	Spoon Trays.....	\$5.00
Sugar and Cream Sets.....	\$1.00	Orange Bowls.....	\$2.00
Sugar and Cream Sets.....	\$2.00	Orange Bowls.....	\$3.00
Sugar and Cream Sets.....	\$3.00	Orange Bowls.....	\$4.00
Sugar and Cream Sets.....	\$4.00	Orange Bowls.....	\$5.00
Sugar and Cream Sets.....	\$5.00	Orange Bowls.....	\$6.00
Covered Butter Dishes.....	\$2.00	Apple Bowls.....	\$4.00
Covered Butter Dishes.....	\$3.00	Apple Bowls.....	\$5.00
Covered Butter Dishes.....	\$4.00	Apple Bowls.....	\$6.00
Covered Butter Dishes.....	\$5.00	Apple Bowls.....	\$7.50

Basement.

Diamond Mounted Gold Lavallieres \$4.50 for Fine Values, Usually \$7.50

DIAMOND JEWELRY, especially Diamond Lavallieres, when April is the diamond month and Easter is just at hand. Can one imagine anything better for an Easter token? And could one find anywhere in Greater New York a value as good?

These handsome Lavallieres are a manufacturer's sample line, therefore there are not over three or four of any one pattern. Also, therefore, you will not be able to duplicate these values.

They are in dainty openwork designs. English finish and very desirable black enamel, which highlights the brilliancy of the Diamonds.

Drops, circles, squares and other pretty shapes, set with genuine brilliant cut diamonds, many with baroque pearls as well.

The diamonds are very brilliant, and each pendant is attached to a 14-inch solid gold chain.

A very remarkable value at \$4.50 each.

Jewelry Store, Main Floor, Fulton and Bond Streets.

Frederick Loeser & Co. BROOKLYN-NEW YORK

Easter Above All a Day for Music

ON EASTER DAY the churches will resound with master-music masterfully rendered in order that your mood may be receptive to the Easter message.

Is there any good reason why such influences should not always surround you in your home? If music aids the message of Easter Day in church, would it not convey its meaning just as surely—and daily through all the year—at home?

Nowadays modern inventions have removed the necessity for becoming a musician in order to enjoy music—even to make it oneself.

Pianos, Player-pianos, Victrolas Ready at Loeser's and in Reach of Every Home

Pianos Six great makes—the famous Kranich & Bach, Estey, Gabler, Francis Bacon, Bjor Bros. and Gordon & Son—all doubly guaranteed and moderately priced, considering tonal and constructional excellence. Loeser's is the only store in Brooklyn where you will find SIX great Pianos at prices from \$198 Up

Player-pianos Eight different styles between the prices of \$395 and \$850—more than are to be seen in any other Brooklyn store. Makes the same as in plain Pianos. Several different player actions may be had. You can compare the claims of each one of the six makers. You can see the instruments side by side and determine which is most pleasing to you. Prices \$395 Up

Victrolas The only large Brooklyn store which provides a complete distributor's stock of Victrolas and Records. The only store which provides music instruction to help you in choosing. The largest number of quiet, cool, well-ventilated demonstration rooms and the quickest service. You will find every Victrola in every usual wood and finish ready at Loeser's. Prices \$15 Up

Your Own Terms of Payment—In Reason

The exclusive Loeser plan of service, which affords another good reason for choosing here. Instead of telling you how much you must pay monthly we invite you to tell us what you would like to pay. We suggest that you select the instrument you prefer, determine the sum to be paid down and the sums to be paid monthly and then advise us of your plan. Unless it is beyond all bounds of good business conduct we will accept it.

Fourth Floor.

Good American Silks at Special Low Prices

35-Inch Black and Colored Taffeta Silks, 78c.

A strong, lustrous quality of chiffon Taffeta, all silk, 35 inches wide, and in such desirable colors as pink, red, blue, navy, rose, orchid, turquoise, lattice green, old rose, Tuxedo brown, covert, wistaria, drowsy, Copenhagen, mountain blue, bright blue, emerald, bottle, light navy, dark navy, Nile, white, ivory and black.

\$2.50 Warp Print Taffeta Silks, 36-Inch, \$1.39.

Exceptionally handsome Pongee and Dresden Taffetas, in keeping with the new Colonial and 1910 modes. Rich flowered patterns on light and dark grounds.

\$2 All Silk 40-Inch Black and Colored Charmeuse, \$1.25.

Excellent quality, in all the correct shades for evening and daytime wear. One of the leading Silks of today.

\$1.25 Black Silk 40-Inch Satin de Chine, 89c.

That such a quality of Satin de Chine in such a width can be sold for so little a price is a marvel. It is regrettable that it is in black only, but that is one reason for the small price.

All Silk 35-Inch Black Satin Messaline, 59c.

Silk Store, Main Floor, Bond Street.

Anniversary Sale Women's Clothing Pre-Easter Values Unparalleled 531 Tailored Serge Dresses, Values to \$18, at \$5.95.

Sizes 34 to 44; Also for Misses

Women's and Misses' New Spring Suits, \$9.50, \$15 and \$25

Suits at \$15. Copies of \$35 to \$45 Models.

Included is one copy of the well known "Meadowbrook" Suit, a field and model that has proved very serviceable and popular. Other suits of gabardine, serge, men's wear, tweeds, poplins and other fashionable suitings.

Altogether eight popular styles at this price, sometimes but a few of a model, and some of an excellent choice in a fashionable model.

The hand-tailored suit shown is probably the best liked of the most at its regular price, and is a very remarkable value at \$15.

Spring Suits at \$25. Copying Models to \$65.

These Suits at \$25 are variously made of embroidered silk poplins, of fancy gabardines, the serges, poplins, checks, pin stripes, etc. There are at least 22 styles at this price.

One copy of the "Boh" model by Brecoil is a marvel at this price. This is one of the smartest of the military styles of the spring.

Other suits are decorated with braid or with embroidery. All have the smart new shaped jackets, all have three pockets, semicircular plaques and with yokes.

For elegance, practicality and sheer beauty, we believe these Suits cannot be matched anywhere for any time like the price.

Sizes for women and misses. Every New Spring shade.

New Watertight Raincoats, Usually \$7.50 to \$9, at \$3.95.

Closing out the stock of a well-known maker of waterproof Raincoats, considerably discounted, from \$7.50 to \$9 values. Others of the same quality, but of a different make, at an unparallelled value at \$3.95.

These Raincoats are made of a heavy, waterproof material, with a rubber lining, and are completely waterproof. They are also very stylish and comfortable to wear.

Plenty of sizes, shades, styles for women and misses.

Second Floor, Bond Street.

Fashionable New, Untrimmed Hats Special Values, 69c., 75c., 98c. and Up

NEVER WAS THERE SUCH AN IMMENSE GATHERING of delectable NEW shapes in spring Millinery to sell at special prices at the psychological moment, two weeks before Easter.

This is the week when women are more than ever interested in Millinery. This is also the time when special values are rare, when women who prefer to trim their own Hats must usually wait for advantageous mark values.

Hats at 69c., 75c., 98c. are made of fine hems and various fancy braids, black and all the appropriate shades for spring. Small turbans and fancy sailor shapes, chiefly, very smart and dashing in their lines and very exceptional values. A special purchase.

Fine Grades of Untrimmed Hats, \$1.50 to \$10

These include Tricorons, sailors, fancy small and medium turbans, in green, cream, brown, black, white, henna, lilac and Beige split straw, some fancy 8-10 braids. Plenty of the lighter and darker shades as well as the dark tones.

The special values at these prices include all very carefully chosen shapes and fabrics, and are sold at the lowest collection to be found anywhere at the most moderate prices.

Children's Untrimmed Hats 59c. to \$5

Henna, Milano, fancy rough straw, all in favored youthful shapes, very easily trimmed, correct to the moment in style. A special purchase which includes some of the best values and the smartest Hats we have seen.

Millinery Trimmings, Special

Special values and very new and fashionable styles included at these very low prices.

Flower Wreaths 30c. in New varnished effects at \$1.25 and \$1.50

Ostrich Bands, black, white and colors, many at low regular values. \$1.25 to \$1.50

Ostrich Bands, heavy heads, wide bands, black and colors. \$1.50 to \$2.00

Ostrich Tips, three in length. \$1.50 to \$2.00

Flowers, many styles, starting at 10c. for 10c. up

Fruits, very desirable. \$1.50 up

Second Floor, Bond Street.